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PROGRAM

All Things Considered...

STATION

WETA Radio NPR Network

DATE

September 19, 1980 5:00 PM

CITY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT

The Filatov Case

SUSAN STAMBERG: Doesn't it sound like the plot of a paperback thriller? A hunt through the corridors of the National Security Council, a hunt for the top-level American official who may have compromised the CIA's top spy in the Kremlin and caused his death. But it is not fiction. This hunt is real, though the accusation might not be. It does involve a real ideological and political battle.

All Things Considered commentator Daniel Schorr has the story.

DANIEL SCHORR: The spy was code-named Tregon, a Soviet diplomat who provided the CIA with some spectacular documents before the Russians spotted him and had him executed. One of his last documents was the purported microfilm copy of a telegram from Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin reporting on an April 1977 meeting with former Secretary Henry Kissinger, and it rocks the White House. Kissinger was represented as advising the Russians to reject President Carter's new proposal for a reduction in nuclear arms, calling Carter a victim of his own illusions and Zbigniew Brzezinski an ideological dogmatist.

When the story first surfaced three years later in Newsweek last July, Kissinger confirmed the meeting with Dobrynin but denied the specific quotations. And he accused the Carter Administration of leaking the story to undermine him on the eve of the Republican convention.

More recently, the story emerged again, with a new twist and apparently a new target. Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Malcolm Wallop, members of the Senate Intelligence Committee and privy to the committee's secrets, wrote a letter